HEURNIUS AND HERMANN, THE EARLIEST KNOWN PLANT COLLECTORS AT THE CAPE

MIA C. KARSTEN

II. PAUL HERMANN (contin.)

Proceeding to **HERMANN'S** writings, he is the author of two major botanical works, containing descriptions of many new plants, found in various parts of the world, including South Africa, and neat, well recognisable pictures he drew of a number of them.

The first work published by him is a catalogue of the Leyden University Garden, the title page of which is as follows: *Horti Academici Lugduno-Batavi Catalogus*, exhibens Plantarum omnium Nomina, quibus ab anno M DC LXXXI ad annum M DC LXXXVI Hortus fuit instructus ut & Plurimarum in eodem cultarum & à nemine hucusque editarum *Descriptiones* & *Icones* Auctore Paulo Hermanno Medicinae & Botanices Professore, Lugduni Batavorum, Apud Cornelium Boutesteyn, M DC LXXXVII[45]. The pictures illustrating the work are finely executed engravings.

In the autumn of 1680 **HERMANN** was approached by the Secretary of the Curators of Leyden University[46] about the fact that the conservatory ("gaelderye" as it was called in 17th century Dutch) of the University Garden contained so many plants in pots, tubs and (wooden) cases, belonging to private people who with the consent of either the professor of botany as the curator of the Garden, or the gardener in charge, had brought them there to shelter them from the winter cold, that there was not enough room left for the Academic collections, and expressing the view that the conservatory, and also the Garden, should be solely used for plants and trees belonging to it. Needless to say that for introduction of tropical and subtropical plants greenhouses are essential, and from HERMANN'S "Dedicatio" of his *Catalogus* of the Leyden University Garden it is learnt that the necessary greenhouses were therefore built between 1680 and 1687, viz. during his curatorship, and "especially the new succulents introduced from the Cape of Good Hope found a good shelter there[47]".

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[45] Translated from the Latin: . . . , giving the names of all the plants introduced to the Garden between 1681 and 1686 and the *descriptions* and *figures* of many cultivated there not previously published; the author being Paul Hermann, Professor of Medicine and Botany. Published by Cornelis Boutesteyn, Leyden, 1687.

[46] "Resoluties van Curatoren" 1680, Aug. 8, published in P. C. MOLHUYZEN, *Bronnen tot de Geschiedenis der Leidsche Universiteit*, Vol. III (1918), pp. 354–355.

Among the exotic plants grown in the University Garden are a great number originating from the Cape, which are described in HERMANN'S *Catalogus*. Of many species pictures are given, showing him as a skilful draughtsman.

The South African plants incorporated in the *Catalogus* show a great variety of species and genera, representing many families. The Mesembryanthemum group (Aizoaceae) and the genus Pelargonium (Geraniaceae) may be mentioned as the best represented. Since SCHUYL'S[48] times the number of Mesembryeae grown in the Garden increased from one to twelve. HERMANN calls these species "Ficoides seu Ficus Aizoides Africana" (Ficoides or the succulent African Figs), because of the resemblance of their fruit to that of the genus Opuntia ("Ficus Indica"). The English common name is still "Fig-Marigold". It appears that the collection contained the "Hottentot's Fig", *Carpobrotus edulis*, (L.) N. E. Br. (Mesembryanthemum edule), *Carpobrotus acinaciformis*, (L.) L. Bol. (M. acinaciforme), *Trichodiadema barbata*, (L.) Schwant. (M. barbatum); the latter two grown from African seed in the garden of Mr. HEEMSKERCK; further *Lampranthus glaucus*, (L.) N. E. Br. (M. glaucum), *Carpobrotus aequilateralis*, (Haw.) N. E. Br. (M. aequilaterale) which flowers all summer; *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum*, L. and *Carpanthea pomeridiana*, (L.) N. E. Br. (M. pomeridianum)[49].

One of the best and most interesting pictures drawn by HERMANN of South African plants undoubtedly is that of *Carpobrotus edulis*, covering p. 245 of his *Catalogus*, and which is reproduced herewith (Plate 1). Part of the extensive description he gives of this species (pp. 244, 246 and 247) may be quoted here

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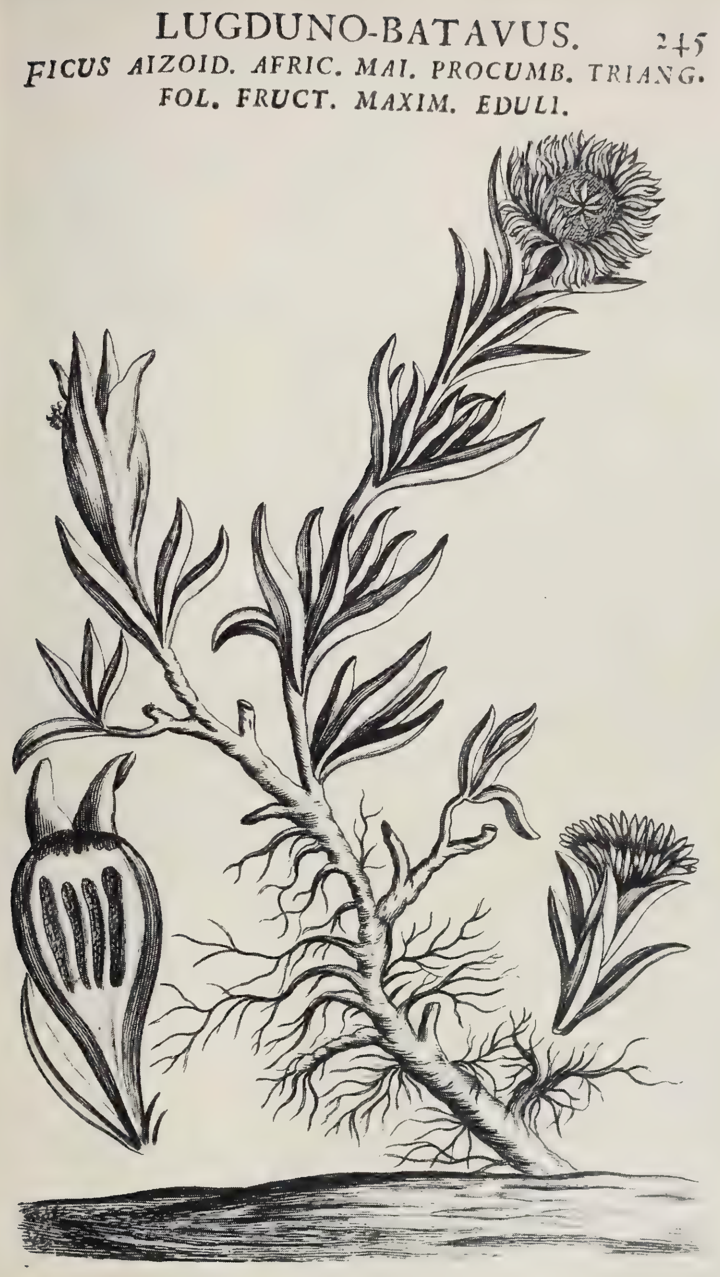
[47] H. VEENDORP and L. G. M. BAAS BECKING, *Hortus Academicus Lugduno-Batavus* 1587–1937. The Development of the Gardens of Leyden University (1938), p. 84.

[48] FLORENTIUS SCHUYL, born in 1619 at Schiedam (Holland), and died in 1669 at Leyden, was a curator of the Leyden University Garden. He published a catalogue of the Garden under the title *Catalogus plantarum horti academici Lugduni Batavi, quibus is instructus erat anno* 1668. *Accedit index plantarum indigenarum, quae prope Lugdunum in Batavis nascuntur.* Lugduni Batavorum, apud haeredes Joh. Elsevirii. 1668.

[49] These notes on the Mesembryeae have been taken from VEENDORP and BAAS BECKING, *Hortus Academicus Lugduno-Batavus* 1587–1937. The Development of the Gardens of Leyden University (1938), p. 85.



LUGDUNO-BATAVUS. 245

FICUS AIZOID. AFRIC. MAI. PROCUMB. TRIANG. FOL. FRUCT. MAXIM. EDULI.

Plate 1
Carpobrotus edulis, (L.) N. E. Br., drawn by Hermann. *Horti Academici Lugduno-Batavi Catalogus* (1687), p. 245.

(translated from the Latin)[50]: "Ficoides, or the larger succulent procumbent African Fig, with a triangular leaf, and a large edible fruit. Common name "Hottentot's Fig".

"Those plants which the distinguished Paul Ammann [?] called "Kalia Africana" because of their natural appearance, and which the most expert Jakob Breyne called in his *Centuria* "Chrysanthema Aizoidea" and in his *Prodromus* "Resembling Chrysanthema", and are in fact commonly known as "Aizoidean Asters" and "triangular Sedums", I wish now to put forward under the name "Ficoides" or "African Aizoidean Figs", to species of which they truly seem to belong rather than to Kalis, Chrysanthemums, Asters or Sedums. . . . (The flower) is wider than that of an Aster and is made up of numerous delicate slender petals, glittering with shining gold like the rays of the sun, encircling many like-coloured stamens furnished with mealy yellowish tips, in the middle of which are seven or eight small horns of a greenish yellow arranged in a ring. When these have withered the fruit develops, and somewhat resembles a common fig, green, pulpy, crammed with very minute seeds, as can be seen in the figure of the cut fruit, with a not unpleasant sweet watery flavour, the top centre being marked with five transverse starlike rays, with a juice which either quickly decays or in the intenser heat of the sun is converted into a mouldy mass separated into five chambers enclosing the tiny angular brown seeds. It flourishes with the other following plants of the same kind in arid sandy maritime places in the Cape of Good Hope, where the fruits are eaten by the Belgian [=Dutch!] settlers as well as by the native Hottentots . . . "

The description of this species is followed by a few notes on a variety of it[51]: "Grown from African seeds in the garden of Mr. HEEMSKERCK, a most diligent cultivator of rare flowers. It corresponds with the foregoing in all respects except for the shorter leaves resembling a curved sword with a broader back".

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[50] Original Latin text: "Ficoides, seu Ficus Aizoides Africana major procumbens, triangulari folio, fructu maximo eduli. Ficus Hottentottorum vulgò.

"Quas Plantas Clarissimus Paulus Ammannus in plantarum charactere naturali Kalia Africana, & peritissimus Iacobus Breynius in Centuriâ Chrysanthema Aizoidea, ac in Prodromo Chrysanthemis similes, vulgus verò Asteres Aizoideos & Seda triangularia appellant, placuit nunc producere sub titulo Ficoides, seu Ficus Aizoides Africanae, ad cujus species veriùs videntur accedere, quam ad Kali, Chrysanthemum, Asterem aut Sedum. . . . Asteris flore amplior, ex molleculis tenuibus numerosis petalis quasi radiis ad Solem aureo fulgore micantibus constructus, cingentibus multa concoloria stamina farinacis flavescentibus apiculis donata, quorum medium occupant septem octovè cornicula ex luteo viridantia in orbem diffusa. His marcescentibus, maturatur fructus, adaequans nonnunquam Ficum vulgarem, viridis, pulposus, granis minutissimis, veluti in Icone incisi fructus videre est, refertus, saporis dulcis aquosi haud in grati, summo umbilico quinquè stellatim decussatis radiis inscripto, pulpâ vel cito putrescente vel intensiori solis aestu in fungosam substantiam transeunte, quae dispescitur in quinquè loculos, includentes semina exigua angulosa fusca. Luxuriat cum caeteris subsequentibus hujus sortis locis maritimis aridis sabulosis ad Promontorium Bonae Spei, ubi fructus tàm à Belgis ibidem hospitantibus, quàm ab Indigenis Hottentottis esitantur. . . ."

[51] Original Latin text: "Crevit ex seminibus Africanis in horto Dni Hemskerck, florum rariorum cultoris solertissimi. Priori omnibus notis respondet, exceptis foliis nonnihil brevioribus, ensem falcatum latiori dorso imitantibus".

Among the Cape plants incorporated in the *Catalogus* are the three depicted and described on p. 335 of J. B. VAN STAPEL'S *Theophrasti Historia Plantarum* (1644)[52]. HERMANN'S descriptions are full and accurate, more technical than the rather sketchy ones HEURNIUS gives of these plants. HEURNIUS' "Sedum arborescens promontorii bonae spei" is cited by HERMANN as "The African Sedum, shrubby, grey with round leaves. Sedum arborescens of the Cape of Good Hope. *Stapel*, 335. *Breyn. Prodr.* 47"[53]. There is some doubt about the identity of this plant depicted on p. 551; it is quite possibly some species other than *C. orbiculata*, L. The description (pp. 549–550) is followed by one of another Cotyledon, which is more likely *C. orbiculata*, "Plakkies" or "Hondeoor": "Also another larger shrubby African Sedum, with rounder leaves, which are glaucous and surrounded by a purple edge. *Breyn. Prodr.* 47. In dry gravelly maritime places on the Cape of Good Hope, reaching the height of a shrub . . ."[54] (without a picture).

HERMANN'S description of "Frutillaria crassa promontorii bonae spei" (*Stapelia variegata*, L.) is accompanied by an excellent picture of this plant (p. 53), showing flowers and the very distinctive fruit, and, separately drawn, a seed with a silky appendage. From the description the following may be quoted here (translated from the Latin)[55]: "The dwarf succulent African Apocynum with erect fruit pods. Fritillaria crassa of the Cape of Good Hope, according to van Stapel in the notes on Theophrastus p. 335. Bodaeus à Stapel in his notes on Theophrastus gave a picture of this plant with the unsuitable name Fritillaria crassa, which had been sent by Justus Heurnius in Belgium [!]; as the figure itself and the annexed description are imperfect and inaccurate, it is as well to put forward an accurate account of this plant. It flourishes on mountainous, rocky, broken, dry places in the Cape of Good Hope, growing from a slender white fibrous root with small stems, sometimes prostrate on the ground, sometimes obliquely erect . . . It requires culture like that of Opuntia spinosa: it loves sun and warm air, and in the North it so much dislikes winter cold that it immediately turns blue, dries up and perishes. It is propagated either by seed, or by branchlets detached and set in the soil. Its possession of properties like those of Apocynum is indicated by its sharp, bitter, nauseous taste and poisonous smell".

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[52] This Journal, Vol. XXIX, Jan., 1963, Plate III.

[53] Original Latin text: "Sedum Africanum frutescens incanum, foliis orbiculatis. Sedum arborescens Promontorii Bonae Spei. *Stapel* 335. *Breyn. Prodr.* 47".

"*Breyn. Prodr.* 47" refers to the first of two books of plates of rare plants in celebrated Dutch gardens by JACOB BREYNE, viz. *Prodromus fasciculi rariorum Plantarum* anno 1679 in hortis celeberrimis Hollandiae etc. observatarum. Gedani, 1680. *Prodr. fasc. secundus* was published in 1689. (For some notes on BREYNE and his major work *Exoticarum Plantarum Centuria prima*, published previously, *vide* footnote 24).

[54] Original Latin text: "Item Sedum majus Arborescens Africanum alterum, foliis rotundioribus, glaucis, limbo purpureo cinctis *Breyn. Prodr.* 47. Locis maritimis, aridis glariosis ad Promontorium Bonae Spei fruticis altitudine assurgit: . . ."

[55] Original Latin text: "Apocynum humile Aizoides siliquis erectis Africanum. Fritillaria crassa Promontorii Bonae Spei Stapel. in not. ad Theophr. 335. Hujus Plantae iconem inepto nomine Fritillariae crassae â Justo Heurnio in Belgiam transmissam, exhibet Bodaeus à Stapel in notis ad Theophrastum; Quoniam vero ico & eidem subnexa descriptio imperfecta & mendosa est, placuit, accuratiorem plantae historiam hîc proponere. Locis montosis, saxosis, praeruptis, aridis ad Promontorium Bonae spei luxuriant è radice albâ exili fibrosâ, cauliculi, modo humi prostrati, modo obliquè ascendentes, . . . Culturam exigit quam Opuntia spinosa; Solem auramquè calidiorem amat, Septentrionalem verò &, hyemale frigus in tantum reformidat, ut illicò livescat, arescat & percat. Propagatur tàm semine, quàm avulsis ramulis, in terram depactis. Virtutem possidere cum Apocynis communem indicant acris, amarus, nauseosus sapor & virosus odor".

The third Cape plant poorly depicted on p. 335 of van Stapel's work, *Kniphofia uvaria*, (L.) Hook., is described by Hermann as follows (translated from the Latin)[56]: "African Aloe, with a triangular, very long and very narrow leaf, and with yellow ill-smelling flowers. Cape of Good Hope, *Stapel* in the notes on Theophrastus, 336". No picture is given by Hermann of this Liliaceous plant.

Of the many other Cape plants grown in the Leyden University Garden and included in the *Catalogus*, the following deserve to be mentioned. The common "Arum Lily", *Zantedeschia aethiopica*, Spreng. (Araceae), described by Hermann as "Arum aethiopicum, flore albo odorato moschum redolente" (. . . , with white scented flower smelling of musk); *Agapanthus umbellatus*, L'Hérit. (Liliaceae), under the strange name of "Hyacintho affinis Africana"; two Leguminosae, *Podalyria myrtillifolia*, Willd. and *Psoralea pinnata*, L.; *Gunnera perpensa*, L. (Halorrhagidaceae); *Leonotis leonurus*, R. Br., "Minaret Flower", "Wilde Dagga" (Labiatae); and to mention just one Composite, a plant described by Hermann as "Calendula humilis africana, flore intus albo, foris violaceo simplici" (Calendula—dwarf African, with a flower white inside, violet-coloured externally, simple (? "single", as compared with "double")]: probably *Dimorphotheca pluvialis*, (L.) Moench, the "Rain Daisy".

Hermann's second work, the *Paradisus Batavus*, published posthumously, bears the following inscription on the title page: *Paradisus Batavus*, innumeris Exoticis curiosis Herbis, ex rarioribus Plantis, magno sumptu & curâ ex variis Terrarum Orbis regionibus, tam Oriente, quam Occidente, collectis, acquisitis, illustratus. Ingeniosissima & dexterrima artificum manu elaboratis iconibus, ad vivum aeri incisis. Eruditissimâ suâ, & magnorum in re Herbaria versatissimorum Virorum Methodicâ Descriptione, & Catalogo Plantarum. Nondum prae immatura morte Auctoris delineatarum, locupletatus. Lugduni-Batavorum, Apud Petrum van der Aa, MDCCV[57].

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[56] Original Latin text: "Aloe Africana, folio triangulo longissimo & angustissimo, floribus luteis foetidis. Iris Uvaria Promont. Bon. Sp. *Stapel in not. ad Theophr.* 336.

On the next page is inscribed "Pavli Hermanni Paradisus Batavus seu Descriptio Rariorum Plantarum", followed by a small oval engraving depicting a gardener, busy putting a plant in a big tub in a botanical garden, with a church in the background.

The work is dedicated to HENRY COMPTON, Bishop of London, a well-known patron of botany, by HERMANN'S widow, ANNA GEERTRUDA (=GEERTRUY) STOMPHIUS. An introduction, numbering no less than 11½ pages, is written by WILLIAM SHERARD by whom this posthumous work was edited. Following are the descriptions of plants covering 247 pages. This is followed by a list, numbering 15 pages, of plants not yet engraved on copper which HERMANN intended to deal with by means of drawings included in subsequent volumes.

The *Paradisus* is illustrated by no less than 111 copper engravings of pictures of plants made by HERMANN, but only a few Cape plants are depicted. The number of Cape plants described is far less than in his *Catalogus*. Among these are *Asclepias fruticosa*, L., "Kapok Bush", "Wilde Kapok", grown from seed sent from the Cape to HERMANN in 1690 by H. B. OLDENLAND, Superintendent of the Company's Garden, with accompanying picture; some other Asclepiadaceae, including *Stapelia variegata*, L.; various Mesembryeae, "Ficoides Africana"; Pelargonium species, "Geranium Africanum", Composites, a few Liliaceous plants.

HERMANN'S second major work has a history of its own. It is less known that it was first published as the second half of WILLIAM SHERARD'S *Schola botanica*, under the sub-title *Paradisi Batavi prodromus*, in 1689[58], viz. before his death. This is a list of some 1,000 plants arranged alphabetically which were in Dutch gardens at the time. There is little doubt that this list was made with the aid of HERMANN'S MS. notes on exotic plants. HERMANN'S pupil SIMON WARTON is stated to have worked at this publication, and a copy of this work with HERMANN'S corrections and annotations was owned by HERMAN BOERHAAVE who succeeded him as a professor. The *Paradisus* was first published by SHERARD from HERMANN'S MS. at Leyden in 1698, as an opus posthumum. It was reprinted in 1705, edited by SHERARD, at the expense of his widow. WILLIAM SHERARD (1659–1728), a former British consul in Smyrna, a lover of plants and founder of the Professorship of Botany in Oxford University, visited Leyden several times and spent a considerable time with HERMANN, learning from him and later helping him to identify his Cape collection[59]. HERMANN obviously had made the acquaintance of SHERARD on a visit to England in 1682, his main objective being the gardens of Oxford and Chelsea in behalf of the Leyden University Garden.

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[57] Translated from the Latin: *Paradisus Batavus*, illustrated by innumerable exotic and curious herbs and rare plants collected and obtained at great expense and trouble from various regions of the lands of the globe, both eastern and western. Illustrated with most elaborate pictures executed by a skilled hand, engraved from life on copper. With his own most learned systematic description, and that of men deeply versed in Herbarium matters, and supplemented by a Catalogue of the plants hitherto only sketched, on account of the untimely death of the Author. Leyden, at Petrus van der Aa, 1705.

[58] P. EDWARDS, *Some Manuscripts relating to South African Botany in the William Sherard Collection in the Bodleian Library at Oxford*, this Journal, Vol. 30, July 1964, p. 104.

In his writings HERMANN uses a method of classification based on fruits.

In his *Thesaurus Zeylanicus* J. BURMAN published two catalogues of Cape plants, of which the first comprises plants recorded by HERMANN, while the second contains actually those which OLDENLAND and HARTOG discovered. The list of HERMANN's plants is entitled: "A Catalogue of African plants which Paul Hermann, Professor of Botany, once observed at the Cape of Good Hope"[60]. Among the plants listed, comprising as many as 765 species, including numerous duplications, are Acacias, Asclepiadaceae ("Apocynums", i.a. VAN STAPEL'S "Frutillaria crassa"), Haemanthus (Amaryllidaceae), various Liliaceae, Iridaceae. Of the 11 "Aloes" found on the list, including *Kniphofia uvaria* (L.) Hook., none are South African as understood to-day.

As to the whereabouts of HERMANN's manuscripts and drawings, a draft of part of his *Paradisus* (MS. 181) and a set of skilful ink drawings of plants, some with MS. notes, made by HERMANN intended to illustrate the catalogue of plants at the end of the work (MS. 178), is to be found in the custody of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, in the Sherard Collection at present on loan from the Department of Botany, Oxford.

The Cape plants depicted include two Asclepiadaceae, under the name "Apocynum". Reproduced herewith (Plate 2) is a fine true to life picture of a climbing Asclepiad (MS. 178, folio 32), its identity leaving little doubt, viz. *Cynanchum obtusifolium*, L.f. There is no name on the sheet, but in the MSS. pre-Linnean polynominals relating to those two "Apocynums", and preceding the drawings, are given, of which "Apocynum scandens vincae pervincae folio subrotundo fructu villoso (Item 30). Herman Catalogus p. 4" ("Climbing

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[59] Ibid.

[60] JOANNUS BURMANNUS, *Thesaurus Zeylanicus*, exhibens Plantas in Insula Zeylana nascentes . . . Omnia Iconibus illustrata, ac descripta (Amsterdam, 1737). *Appendix*, original Latin text: "Catalogi duo Plantarum *Africanarum*, Quorum prior complectitur Plantas ab Hermanno observatas, Posterior vero illas continet, quas Oldenlandus et Hartogius indagarunt". The list of HERMANN's plants (pp. 1–23) is entitled: "*Catalogus Plantarum Africanarum*, Quas *Paulus Hermannus*, Botanices Professor, ad Caput Bonae Spei olim observavit".

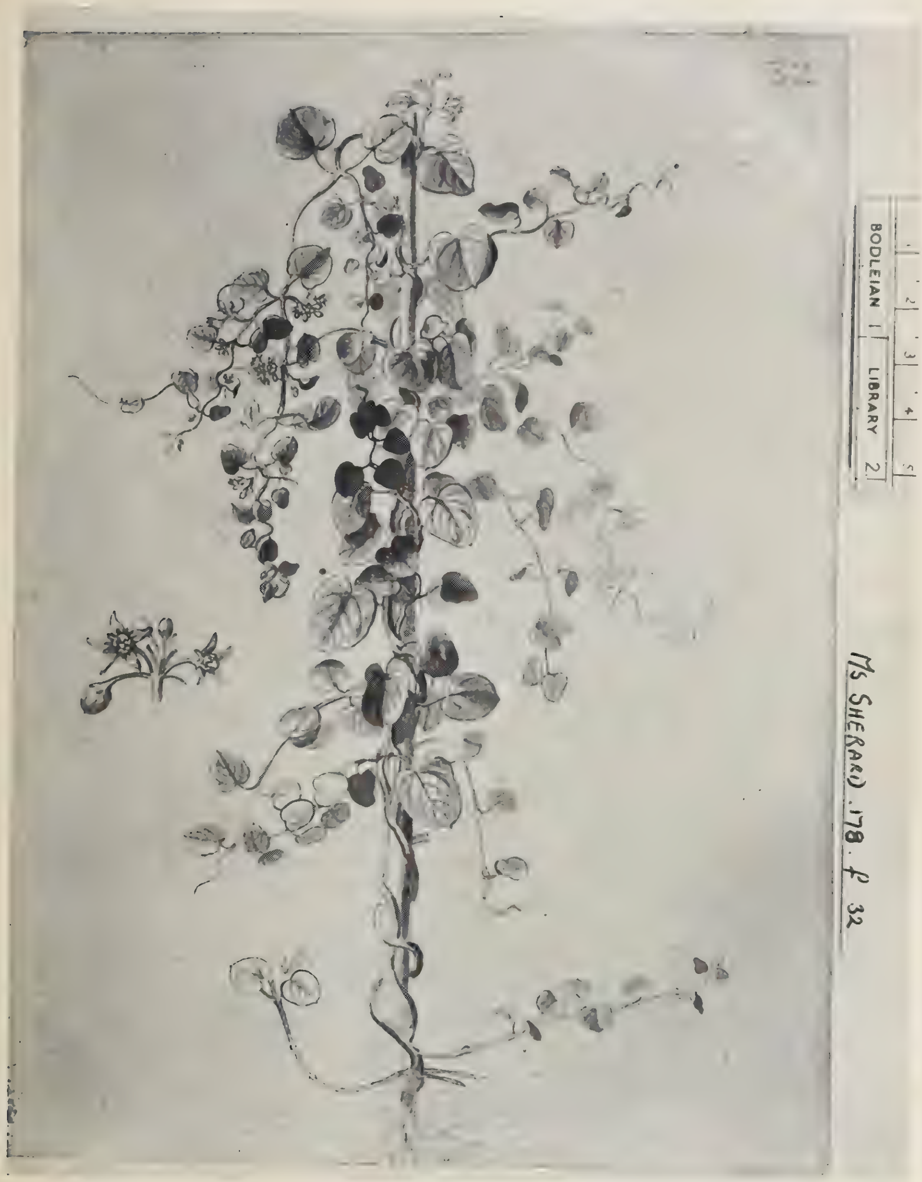

PLATE 2
HERMANN's drawings.
Cynanchum obtusifolium, L.f.
William Sherard Collection, MS. 178, folio 32.
By permission of the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

Apocynum with the subrotund leaf of a periwinkle and a hairy fruit . . .") refers to the pictured plant. This name appears on the right of folio 31.

A full page of text relating to an "Aloe" in Hermann's handwriting (verso of folio 14) is found in the MS. Sherard 181 mentioned above. The plant is introduced under the polynominal "Aloe Africana foetida folio longissimo et angustissimo radice lutea", Hort. Lugd. ("Evil-smelling African Aloe with a very long and narrow leaf and a yellow root", Leyden Garden), and is described as follows (translated from the Latin)[61]: "On account of the form and arrangement of the flower which is common to many species of aloes, it was considered right to classify it as an Aloe. They [i.e. the flowers] are tube-shaped, an inch or an inch and a half long, being deeply divided at their mouths, frequently into five, less frequently into six, segments, of a red colour, or as happens in Belgium, of a slightly reddening yellow, with an unpleasant odour. The root [i.e. rhizome] is thick, yellow, malodorous, producing a few twisted branches, spreading and turning in on one another, with a few fibres [fibrous roots] interspersed. The leaves arise in clusters from the joint of the rhizome: they are two feet long, an inch wide, sharp on both edges, one surface being keeled, the other marked on the back with a remarkable protuberance so that they appear to be triangular [?] to the observer. The scape exceeds the leaves in length, terete and when fresh of a reddish colour, juicy, bare and smooth; from the tip of this the flowers hang like grapes or clusters, just as in the racemose larger blue Hyacinth of the Cape of Good Hope". With one single correction in W. Sherard's handwriting.

The above description does not apply to any species of the genus Aloe as now understood. There is little doubt about the true identity of the plant described by Hermann, viz. *Kniphofia uvaria*, (L.) Hook., the "Red-hot Poker", once common on the Cape Peninsula, in swampy places. This should be identical with the species described by Hermann as "African Aloe, with a triangular, very long and very narrow leaf, and with yellow ill-smelling flowers", with a reference to the picture with short description in van Stapel's work (see p. 166, footnote 56). Find included a photograph of the greater part of this "Aloe" description in Hermann's handwriting (Plate 3).

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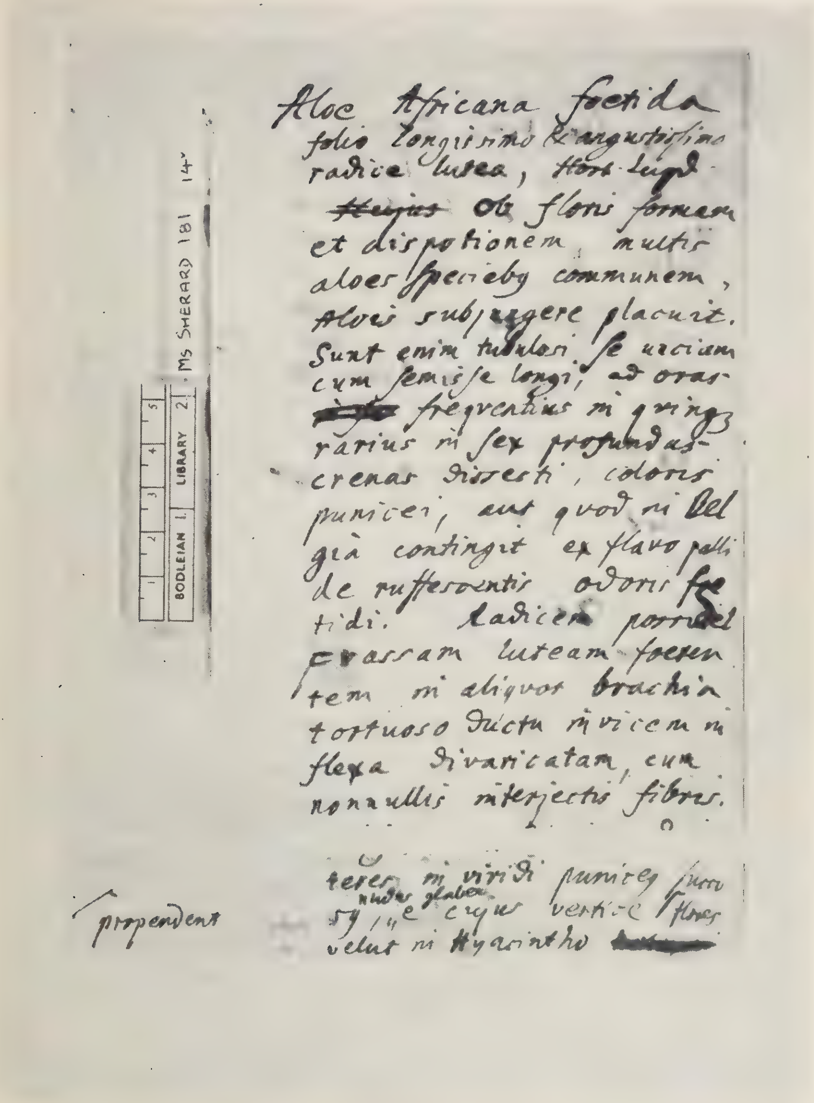
[61] Original Latin text: "Ob floris formam et dispositionem multis aloes specieby communem, Alois subjungere placuit. Sunt enim tubulosi se unciam cum semisse longi, ad oras frequentius in quinque rarius in sex profundas crenas dissecti, coloris punicei, out quod in Belgia contingit ex flavo pallide ruffescentis odoris foetidi. Radicem possidet crassam luteam foetentem in aliquot brachia tortuosa ductu in vicem inflexa divaricatam, cum nonnullis interjectis fibris. Folia e radicis nodis fasciculatim assurgunt, duos pedes longa, unciam lata utrinq acuta altera parte carinata, altera insigni protuberante dorso notata, ut inspicienti triangula appareant. Intra haec assurgit scapus longitudine folio excedens teres in viridi puneceq succosq [?], nudus glaber cujus vertice propendent flores velut ni Hyacintho racemoso coeruleo majo in CBS uvatim seu rare matim, dispositi". ("propendent" inserted by Sherard).



BODLEIAN LIBRARY · MS SHERARD 181 14*

Aloe Africana foetida
folio longissimo et angustissimo
radice lutea, Hort. Lugd-
~~[illegible]~~ Ob floris formam
et dispositionem multis
aloes speciebus communem,
Aloes subjungere placuit.
Sunt enim tubulosi sescunciam
cum semisse longi, ad oras
~~[illegible]~~ frequentius in quinque
rarius in sex profundas
crenas dissecti, coloris
punicei, aut quod in Bel-
gia contingit ex flavo palli-
de rufescentis odoris foe-
tidi. Radicem porrigit
crassam luteam foeten-
tem in aliquot brachia
tortuoso ductu invicem in
flexa divaricatam, cum
nonnullis interjectis fibris.

teres in viridi puniceus junceo
nudus glaber
sy 1/4 e cujus vertice flores
velut in Hyacintho ~~[illegible]~~

propendent

PLATE 3.
Example of HERMANN's handwriting.
Parts of a description of an "Aloe" (*Kniphofia uvaria*, (L.) Hook.), in the William Sherard Collection, MS. 181 (verso of folio 14), the cut at the bottom showing a correction by SHERARD.
By permission of the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

Linnaeus paid tribute to Hermann, as an outstanding figure in the history of South African botany, by naming after him the genus *Hermannia* (Sterculiaceae), numbering over 300 species, for the greater part indigenous to South Africa. They are herbs, shrubs and undershrubs, with scarlet, orange or yellow hanging twisted flowers.

In addition to a photograph of Folio 1 of Vol. 75 of the Sloane Herbarium, showing a specimen collected by Hermann and identified by N. S. Pillans as *Hermannia triphylla*, Cav.[62], a picture of *H. cristata*, Bolus is reproduced herewith (Plate 4). This drawing was made by the author of a specimen collected on a hill NE of Mbabane in October, 1961. *H. cristata* is an attractive plant with its bright scarlet flowers, and certainly one of the most beautiful of the genus. The former species whose flowers are yellow, is recorded as widely distributed from the Cape Province to Kimberley, and as having the most variable habit of growth in the genus.

Portraits of Heurnius and Hermann have not been found up to now. Thorough investigations by Mr. L. Vogelenzang, Librarian of the Rijksherbarium (State Herbarium), Leyden, in this respect were unsuccessful.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I want to express my sincere thanks to Miss Phyllis I. Edwards, Librarian of the Botany Department, British Museum (Natural History), London, for her most generous assistance: she even took the trouble to examine Hermann's MSS. and drawings in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, resulting in the reproduction herewith of one of Hermann's drawings of Cape plants and of an example of his handwriting. She also kindly let me have photostats of pages from Rees' *Cyclopaedia* and Dandy's *Sloane Herbarium*, providing valuable information. I am also greatly indebted to Mr. P. W. Thiele of the Manuscript Department of the Rijksherbarium at Leyden, who provided me with welcome biographical records, including photostats of pages from the works by Molhuyzen, Molhuyzen and Blok, and van der Aa; to Miss Mary D. Gunn, Librarian, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, for her bibliographical research, resulting in the information I wanted, and for kindly sending me photostats of pages from Hermann's *Catalogus* of the Leyden University Garden, Linnaeus' *Flora Zeylanica* and Wännman's *Flora Capensis*. I am grateful to Prof. R. H. Compton, Mbabane; Mrs. L. Rollo, Cape Town, and Dr. F. G. van der Riet, Librarian, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, for translations from the Latin. Finally I should like to express my gratitude to Dr. W. Piechocki, Chief

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[62] This Journal, Vol. 33, April, 1967, Plate, p. 121.

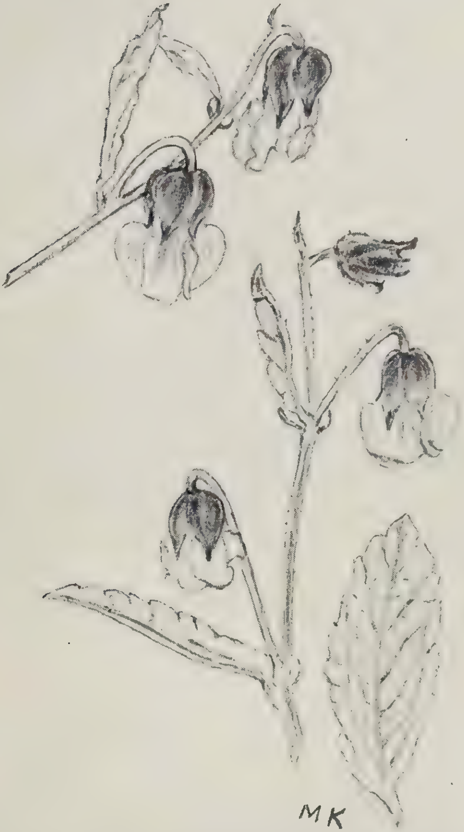

PLATE 4
Hermannia cristata, Bolus.
Hill NE of Mbabane, October, 1961. *M. Karsten del.*

Archivist, Stadtarchiv (Municipal Archives), Halle (Saale), Germany; and the Reverend F. L. van 't Hooft, Wijk bij Duurstede, Holland, for research resulting in certain biographical records.

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CORRIGENDUM

To Justus Heurnius, this Journal, Vol. XXIX, part 1, January, 1963:

On p. 27 it is recorded that Heurnius' death occurred between September, 1651, and September, 1652. After the Heurnius paper was published, it was found by the Reverend F. L. van 't Hooft, Wijk bij Duurstede, Holland, that in the *Lijst van Predikanten van Wijk bij Duurstede* [List of Clergymen of . . .] the dates 1640–1653 are given, but without HEURNIUS' name. There is little doubt that these relate to HEURNIUS. Accordingly, the year of his death should be 1653.

ADDENDUM

To PAUL HERMANN, this Journal, Vol. 33, part 2, April, 1967:

Later research revealed that HERMANN was the son of JOHANN HERMANN, a well-known organist, and MARIA MAGDELENA RÖBER, a clergyman's daughter.